

On page 7, between lines 4 and 5 (before "For the development"), please insert the following centered text:

~~A4~~
-- BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --

On page 7, please amend the third paragraph as follows:

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The present invention provides peptides comprising at least part of the VCA-p18 or VCA-p40 protein, encoded within the EBV open reading frames BFRF3 and BdRF1 respectively, and fragments thereof, immunochemically reactive with antibodies to the Epstein Barr Virus. Part of the invention are therefore peptides with 176 and 345 amino acids respectively and an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 and 4 which are immunochemically reactive with EBV antibodies.

On page 7, before the last two lines on the page (before "The term 'peptide'"), please insert the following centered text:

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-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION --

On page 15, please amend the second paragraph as follows

A7
Antibodies, directed to a peptide according to the invention are also part of the present invention. The peptides or fragments thereof prepared and described above are used to produce antibodies, both polyclonal and monoclonal. Monoclonal antibodies directed against peptides according to the invention can be readily produced by one skilled in the art. Preferred antibodies to different epitopes of the VCA-p18 protein according to the invention are antibodies produced by the rat-mouse hybridoma cell line deposited at the European Culture of Animal Cell Cultures (ECACC) CAMR, Porton Down, Salisbury, Wilt. SP4 OJG, UK, under the deposit nos. 93020413 or 93020412, both deposited on February 4, 1993. Preferred antibodies having the same reactivity with VCA-p40 as antibodies produced by the mouse-mouse hybridoma cell line deposited at the European Culture of Animal Cell Cultures (ECACC) CAMR, Porton Down, Salisbury, Wilt. SP4 OJG, UK, under the provisional deposit no. 93020414, deposited on February 4, 1993.

On page 20, line 18, in the third paragraph (just before "Figure 1:"), please delete the line reading "LEGENDS:" and replace with the following, centered on the line:

A8

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES--

On page 22, in the second paragraph (beginning at "Peptide 1:"), please amend the text as follows:

- Peptide 1: H₂N-GVPRRQRAIDKRQRA-COOH as shown in SEQ ID No. 7.
 Peptide 2: H₂N-GQPHDTAPRGARKKQ-COOH as shown in SEQ ID No. 8.
 Peptide 3: H₂N-AVDTGSGGGGQPHDTAPRGARKKQ-COOH as shown in SEQ ID No. 5.
 Peptide 4: H₂N-STAVAQSATPSVSSSISSLRAATSGATAAA-COOH as shown in SEQ ID No. 6.
 Peptide 5: Combi-peptide of peptide 4 and 3 linked by S-S-bridging.

On page 32, line 7, please replace the table with the following rewritten table:

Serum No.	Domain I (pept. 120-140)		
	Elisa OD ₄₅₀	Peptide A.A. - sequence	
1	1.418	120-TAVAQSATPSVS-132	SEQ ID NO:9
2	1.820	120-TAVAQSATPSVS-132	SEQ ID NO:9
3	1.228	128-PSVSSSISSLRA-140	SEQ ID NO:10
4	1.230	128-PSVSSSISSLRA-140	SEQ ID NO:10
5	0.540	128-PSVSSSISSLRA-140	SEQ ID NO:10
6	0.731	129-SVSSSISSLRAA-141	SEQ ID NO:11
7	0.385	129-SVSSSISSLRAA-141	SEQ ID NO:11
8	1.360	131-SSSISSLRAATS-143	SEQ ID NO:12
9	1.598	131-SSSISSLRAATS-143	SEQ ID NO:12
10	1.591	131-SSSISSLRAATS-143	SEQ ID NO:12
11	1.251	131-SSSISSLRAATS-143	SEQ ID NO:12
12	1.839	133-SISSLRAATSGA-145	SEQ ID NO:13
13	1.128	134-ISSLRAATSGAT-146	SEQ ID NO:14
14	1.064	138-RAATSGATAAAS-150	SEQ ID NO:15
15	0.695	138-RAATSGATAAAS-150	SEQ ID NO:15

Serum No.	Domain II (pept. 152-155)		
	Elisa OD ₄₅₀	Peptide A.A. – sequence	
1	-	-	-
2	0.678	155-DTGSGGGGQPHD-167	SEQ ID NO:19
3	-	-	-
4	-	-	-
5	-	-	-
6	-	-	-
7	-	-	-
8	-	-	-
9	0.510	153-AVDTGSGGGGQP-165	SEQ ID NO:17
10	0.474	153-AVDTGSGGGGQP-165	SEQ ID NO:17
11	0.958	152-AAVDTGSGGGGQ-164	SEQ ID NO:16
12	-	-	-
13	0.460	154-VDTGSGGGGQPH-166	SEQ ID NO:18
14	-	-	-
15	-	-	-

Serum No.	Domain III (pept. 159-165)		
	Elisa OD ₄₅₀	Peptide A.A. – sequence	
1	-	-	-
2	0.423	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
3	0.808	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
4	0.761	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
5	1.354	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
6	1.441	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
7	0.770	163-QPHDTAPRGARK-175	SEQ ID NO:22
8	1.343	160-GGGQPHDTAPRG-172	SEQ ID NO:20
9	1.481	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
10	1.481	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
11	0.774	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
12	0.407	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
13	1.535	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
14	1.319	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21
15	0.644	162-GQPHDTAPRGAR-174	SEQ ID NO:21